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Russian program, and it was stated that all the works of living German and Austrian composers would be banished for the future. This was to propitiate popular sentiment. "The patriotic feelings of the enormous audience," we were assured, had to be considered, and any German music might provoke such manifestations as would embarrass the police. A writer in one of the newspapers ventures the ironical comment that "it would be interesting to know whether it is also high treason in Germany now to be caught reading Shakespeare and Milton?"

On August 5, this was a war on England's part for the neutrality of Belgium, the rights of small nations, and the sanctity of treaties. The suggestion of any sordid or selfish consideration was anathema. A fortnight later, Belgian neutrality claims less space in the newspapers than the capture of German markets. "World Trade War" is the caption for a column in a leading Liberal newspaper this morning, and essentially the same appears in the other papers. "Millions to be Won," "Plans for Conquest of German Markets," "British Traders' Opportunity to Capture Commerce"—such are the bristling headlines. "No such golden chance has ever been offered to British industry and commerce as is afforded by the conditions arising from the present European war," proclaims the British Empire Industrial League, and it gloats over the chances for Britain's capture of the £532,000,000 annual volume of export trade till yesterday in the hands of "our most unscrupulous competitors." One writer urges the annihilation not only of Germany's navy, but of her entire mercantile fleet as well. If this were done, "England would have such a booming trade as we have never before dreamed of." Even the Colonial Secretary and the Foreign Secretary and the board of trade are co-operating officially to collect and circulate the data which will rouse English traders to the good fortune offered them by Germany's misfortune. "The complete paralysis of Germany's export trade which has followed the sweeping of the seas by the British navy," says the *Daily News*, the organ of Liberalism, "has presented our traders with a wonderful opportunity, and they are grimly alive to the situation."

One cannot help wondering how all this will read in "selfish, envious, and bigoted" Berlin. Will she "grimly" venture the suspicion that the eloquent and mighty altruism of a fortnight ago was not the dominant thing in the British compound? She could, like everybody else, make too sweeping deductions from things like these. They do not represent in any sense the majority or dominant sentiment of the English public today. But, as we see in every war, these are the sentiments which rapidly develop as the war itself develops, until public opinion in the warring nations becomes inebriate and selfishness and passion entirely usurp the throne.

LONDON, August 20.

### Book Reviews.

**THE BALKAN WARS. 1912-1913.** The Stafford Little lectures at Princeton University for 1914. By Jacob Gould Schurman. Princeton University Press, 1914. 144 pages. Price, \$1.00 net.

President Schurman is unusually well qualified to re-

port on the attitude of the governments concerned in the wars, because of the official position he held at Athens during that period. The first section of the book treats of Turkey and the Balkan States, and contains a historical account of Turkey's rise and subsequent decline in power, the story of the oppression of the Slavonic population of the Balkan peninsula, the Greek ecclesiastical domination of the Slavs, the causes of the first Balkan war, and the reasons which led Greece to cast her lot with Servia and Bulgaria instead of allying herself with Turkey. The second part is concerned with the war between the allies, their rival ambitions and animosities, and the other causes which contributed to the outbreak of hostilities between them. Dr. Schurman lays emphasis on the conciliatory spirit of the Greeks, especially of the Prime Minister and the King, and maintains that the war of the allies was not provoked by Greece. The treatise is clear, concise, and accurate, and deserves to be read by all who wish to understand the situation that led to the two Balkan wars.

**THE LAST SHOT.** By Frederick Palmer. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York: 1914. 517 pages. Price, \$1.35 net; postage extra.

This story by Frederick Palmer, who for twenty years as war correspondent has known more of war than most men, is somewhat difficult to interpret. The book rings with the author's own personal experiences. As a writer of battles, sieges, victories, and defeats he is as supreme in his idealism as in the actual war which he has depicted. The first impression of the reader is that the story is artificial, and indeed continues to be. The conflicts in the story make one as disgusted with the whole irrational business of war as if reading of actual battles being fought. The defeated general could not face the disgrace, and took his own life—"The Last Shot"—giving the title to the story. The author closes with a complicated exposition of the uselessness and ruinousness of annexation of territory, of indemnities, etc. He allows the use of armaments only as an international police force, and clearly points out that the only solution is to make humanity feel such a revolt against the awful war curse that men will refuse to leave their homes, and will demand that the settlement of disputes be left to statesmen.

**ASIA AT THE DOOR.** By K. K. Kawakami. New York: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1914. 269 pages. Price, \$1.50 net.

The list of excellent treatises on the vital question of American-Japanese relations is rapidly growing. To his former volume on "American-Japanese Relations" Mr. Kawakami has now added another scholarly discussion of the Japanese question in Continental United States, Hawaii, and Canada. The author has been so long in America that he writes with a complete understanding of the viewpoint of this country as well as of his own. He endeavors, by presentation of actual conditions, to correct the groundless fears and misapprehensions that exist in the minds of many. He writes in a friendly and fair spirit. His command of the English language is remarkable, his style facile and charming, while at the same time logical, judicial, and convincing. Some of the titles of the chapters are most suggestive: "The Meeting of Two Worlds," "Mutual